

Preliminary Amendment that Applicants mailed on 12/18/98; the Examiner has indicated in Paragraph 1 of the Office Action of May 27, 1999 that these claims have been re-numbered as shown below.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 5, 14, 18-22, 24-37, and 39-42 as follows:

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1. (Twice Amended) A system for processing and reconciling information comprising:
an information processing system having a memory and a processor;
means for entering first ordinal information and second ordinal information,
each of said first ordinal information and second ordinal information including an ordinal interval; and
means for reconciling said first ordinal information and said second ordinal information by constructing at least one list having a selected one of the ordinal intervals.

2. (Amended) A computer-implemented method for synchronizing information between two data sets, the method comprising:
receiving a request to synchronize information between a first data set and a second data set;
detecting a difference between the first data set and the second data set which prevents synchronization being performed directly on [those two] said first and second data sets;
based on the detected difference, creating a first derived data set and a second derived data set suitable for synchronizing information between the first and second data sets, by
determining a data set format suitable for synchronizing information between the two data sets, and
based on the determined data set structure [format], mapping information from the first data set into the first derived data set and mapping information from the second data set into the second derived data set; and

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synchronizing information between the first and second data sets by
synchronizing information between the first and second derived data
sets, and

selectively copying information from the first derived data set into the
first data set and selectively copying information from the second derived data set into
the second data set.

3. A computer-implemented method for synchronizing information between two data sets,
the method comprising:

receiving a request to synchronize information between a first data set and a second data set;
detecting a difference between the first data set and the second data set which impedes
synchronization being performed directly on the two data sets;

based on the detected difference, creating at least one intermediate data set for synchronizing
information between the first and second data sets; and

synchronizing information between the first and second data sets using said at least one
intermediate data set.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein said creating step includes:

determining a data set structure suitable for synchronizing information between the first
second data sets;

based on the determined data set structure, creating a first derived data set
and mapping information from the first data set into the first derived data set; and

based on the determined data set structure, creating a second derived data set and mapping
information from the second data set into the second derived data set.

5. (Amended) The method of claim [3] 4, wherein said synchronizing step
includes:

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synchronizing information between the first and second derived data sets; and
selectively copying information from the first derived data set into the first
data set and selectively copying information from the second derived data set into the second
data set.

6. The method of claim 3, wherein:
said first and second data sets each comprise a table having entries; and
said synchronizing step includes copying values from a source entry of one table to a
corresponding target entry in the other table.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said copying step includes:
receiving user input specifying which entry should serve as the source entry and which entry
should serve as the target entry.

8. The method of claim 3, wherein said first and second data sets originally reside on
separate input devices, prior to synchronization.

9. The method of claim 3, wherein said first and second data sets comprise scheduling
information.

10. The method of claim 3, wherein said first and second data sets each comprise a table
having entries and wherein said synchronizing step further comprises:
receiving user input for selectively blocking synchronization of particular entries.

11. The method of claim 3, wherein at least one of the data sets is electronically transmitted
from a portable electronic device.

12. A system for synchronizing sets of information comprising:
an information processing system having a memory and a processor;
means for receiving first and second sets of information, each set comprising a plurality of
entries;
means for creating at least one synchronization data structure for facilitating synchronization
of said first and second sets of the information; and
means for synchronizing said first and second sets of information comprising:
means for transferring at least some information from said first and second sets of
information into said at least one synchronization data structure, and
means for synchronizing individual entries from said first and second sets of
information using said at least one synchronization data structure.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein said at least one synchronization data structure comprises first and second derived data sets, said first and second derived data sets being compatible for synchronization of individual entries.

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14. (Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein said first derived data set [structure] includes information mapped from said first set of information, and wherein said second derived data set [structure] includes information mapped from said second set of information.

15. The system of claim 12, wherein said means for synchronizing said first and second sets of information further comprises:

means for selectively copying information from said at least one synchronization data structure back into said first and second sets of information.

16. The system of claim 12, further comprising:

means for displaying to a user corresponding entries between said first and second sets of information.

17. The system of claim 16, further comprising:

input means for receiving user input for selectively blocking synchronization of particular entries from said first and second sets of information.

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18. (Amended) The system of claim [10] 12, wherein said means for synchronizing individual entries comprises means for automatically performing reconciliation.

19. (Amended) The system of claim [16] 18 wherein said means for automatically performing synchronization comprises means for automatically inserting non-conflicting information entries from said first and second sets of information into said at least one synchronization data structure.

20. (Amended) The system of claim [16] 18 wherein said means for automatically performing synchronization comprises means for resolving conflicts based on priority.

21. (Amended) The system of claim [18] 20 wherein said means for resolving conflicts based on priority utilizes priority information associated with individual entries from said first and second sets of information.

22. (Amended) The system of claim [16] 18 further comprising means for accepting user input for directing conflict resolution, wherein said means for synchronizing individual entries from said first and second sets of information comprises means for resolving conflicts based on said user input.

23. In an information processing system, a method for reconciling at least two information sets, including a first information set and a second information set, using at least a third information set, the method comprising:

receiving a request to reconcile the at least two information sets;
including information entries from the first information set into the third information set;
selectively inserting information entries from the second information set into the third information set for reconciling the first and second information sets; and
updating the first information set with information from the third information set.

24. (Amended) The method of claim [21] 23 wherein the step of including information entries comprises initially including all information entries from the first information set into the third information set.

25. (Amended) The method of claim [22] 24 further comprising, before the step of including information entries, creating the third information set in response to the received request to reconcile.

Sub 26. (Amended) The method of claim [21] 23 wherein the step of selectively inserting information entries comprises automatically performing reconciliation.

27. (Amended) The method of claim [24] 26 wherein the step of automatically performing reconciliation comprises automatically inserting non-conflicting information entries into the third information set.

28. (Amended) The method of claim [25] 27 wherein the non-conflicting entries that are inserted include events.

29. (Amended) The method of claim [25] 27 wherein the step of automatically performing reconciliation comprises automatically resolving conflicts based on priority.

30. (Amended) The method of claim [27] 29 wherein information from the first information set has priority over information from the second information set.

31. (Amended) The method of claim [27] 29 wherein information entries from the first and second information sets have been prioritized according to level.

32. (Amended) The method of claim [21] 23 further comprising updating the second information set with information from the at least the third information set, including information entries originating from the first information set.

33. (Amended) The method of claim [21] 23 further comprising loading the first and second information sets into the information processing system, wherein information in the first information set has been accumulated separately from information in the second information set.

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34. (Amended) The method of claim [21] 23 further comprising, if automatic conflict resolution is not enabled, accepting user input for directing conflict resolution.

35. (Amended) The method of claim [32] 34 wherein the user input for directing conflict resolution includes user input for deleting an undesired information entry.

36. (Amended) The method of claim [32] 34 wherein the user input for directing conflict resolution includes user input for editing an information entry.

37. (Amended) The method of claim [21] 23 further comprising obtaining at least one date of user interest, wherein the at least two information sets includes information associated with dates.

38. In an information processing system, a method for reconciling information between two data sets, the method comprising:

receiving a request to reconcile information between a first data set and a second data set;
providing at least one intermediate data set for reconciling information between the first and second data sets based on a difference between the first and second data sets which impedes reconciliation being performed directly on the first and second data sets; and
reconciling information between the first and second data sets using said at least one intermediate data set.

39. (Amended) The method of claim [36] 38 wherein the at least one intermediate data set includes a first intermediate data set, and the reconciling step comprises selectively inserting information entries from the first and second data sets into the first intermediate data set.

40. (Amended) The method of claim [37] 39 wherein the step of selectively inserting information entries comprises inserting information entries that overlap with one another, if the overlapping information entries have not been designated as being exclusive.